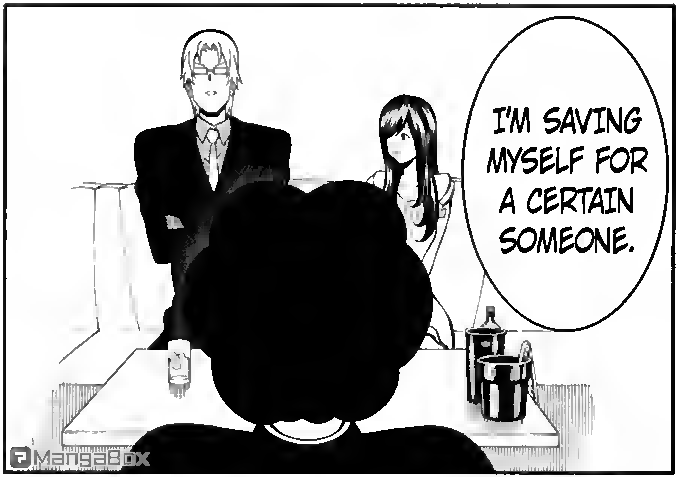
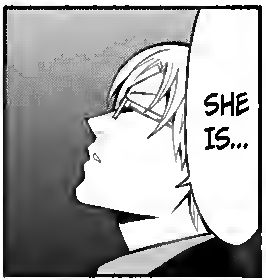
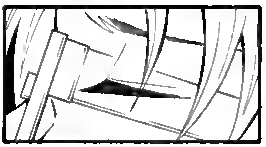


35th night: JUSTIN's Distant Heart





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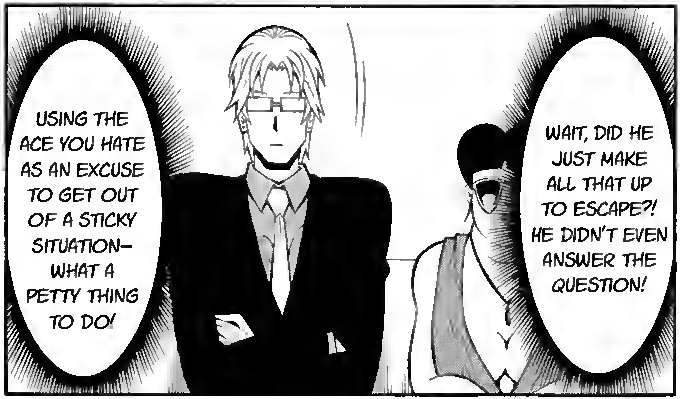
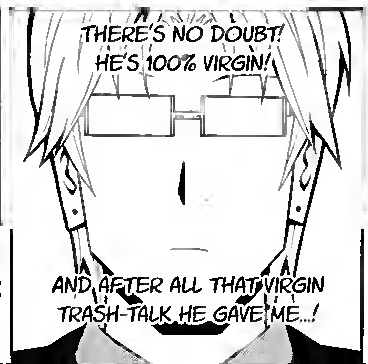
ON THE CONTRARY, SHE'S SURVIVED A LIFE FULL OF UNWANTED CRITICISM.
SHE ISN'T SOMEONE YOU WOULD CALL PRETTY OR SLIM.
TRULY, SHE IS AN INCREDIBLE WOMAN.
AND HAS A BEAU-TIFUL HEART.
SHE IS FULL OF COMPAS-SION...
BUT BECAUSE OF THAT HARD LIFE, SHE UNDERSTANDS THE PAIN OF OTHERS.

HER SHORT HAIR SUITS HER VERY WELL,
AND FROM BEHIND HER FETCHING SUNGLASSES ONE CAN SPY HER LOVELY EYES.
CLINK
SHE'S ALWAYS WAITING FOR ME, AS WELL...
...SO I'D BEST BE ON MY WAY.

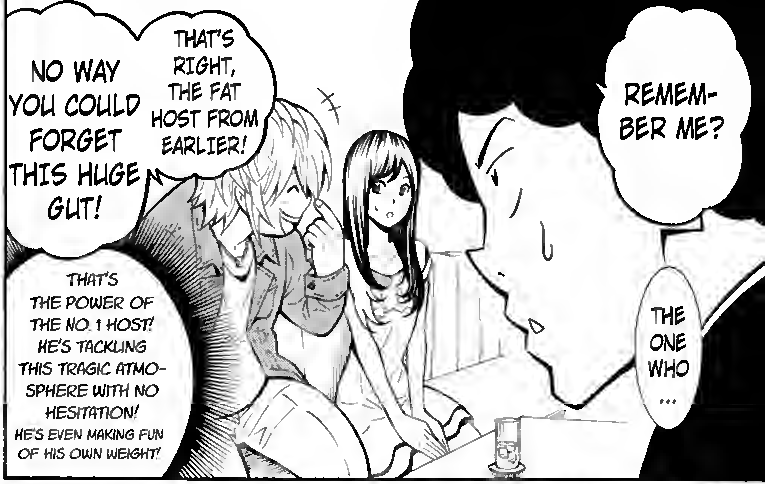
HER AGAIN?!
IT'S HER!
WELCOME BACK.
GOOD TO BE BACK.

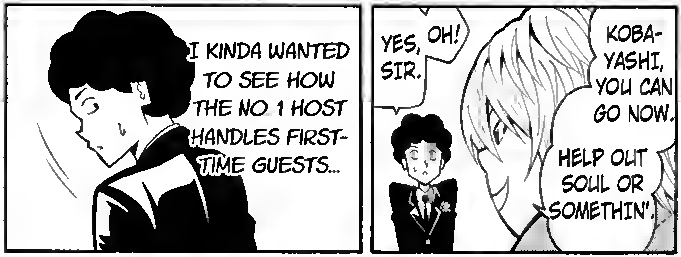

USING THE ACE YOU HATE AS AN EXCUSE TO GET OUT OF A STICKY SITUATION— WHAT A PETTY THING TO DO!
WAIT, DID HE JUST MAKE ALL THAT UP TO ESCAPE?! HE DIDN'T EVEN ANSWER THE QUESTION!

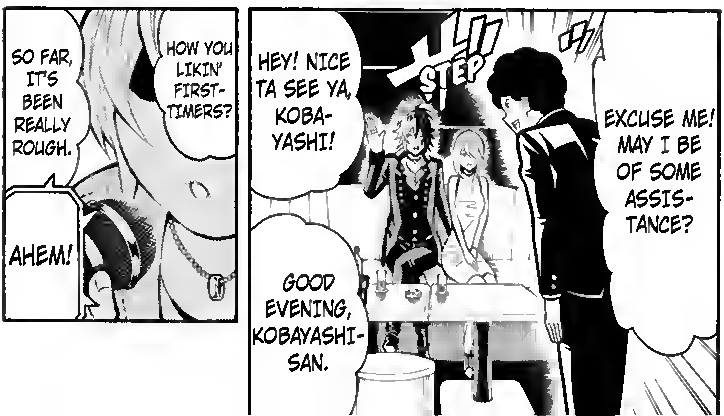
WELL, AS MUCH AS IT PISSES ME OFF,
I HAVE MORE IMPORTANT THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT!


THERE'S NO DOUBT! HE'S 100% VIRGIN!
AND AFTER ALL THAT VIRGIN TRASH-TALK HE GAVE ME...!

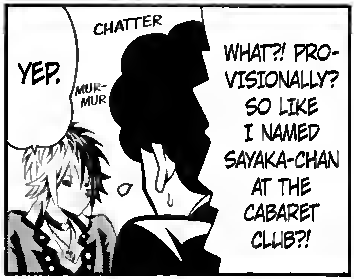
GLOOM
I'M STUCK ALONE WITH A VERY DISSATISFIED CUSTOMER!
LIKE, WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO ABOUT THIS SITUATION?!
WHAT'S UP OVER HERE, HUH?
I JUST CAN'T DO IT! SAVE ME, SOUL-SAN!!
...
THERE'S NO WAY I CAN COME BACK FROM THIS!
AH!
I'LL APPEAR
WHAT A GLOOMY TABLE!
JIN ZANBA-MISAKI!!
AGAIN?!

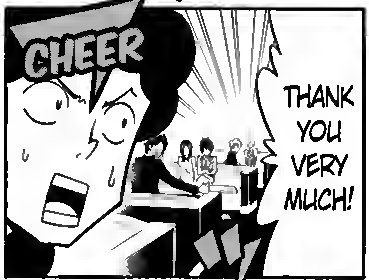

REMEMBER ME?
THE ONE WHO ...
THAT'S RIGHT, THE FAT HOST FROM EARLIER!
NO WAY YOU COULD FORGET THIS HUGE GUT!
THAT'S THE POWER OF THE NO. 1 HOST! HE'S TACKLING THIS TRAGIC ATMOSPHERE WITH NO HESITATION! HE'S EVEN MAKING FUN OF HIS OWN WEIGHT!


I KINDA WANTED TO SEE HOW THE NO 1 HOST HANDLES FIRST-TIME GUESTS...
YES, SIR. OH!
KOBAYASHI, YOU CAN GO NOW.
HELP OUT SOUL OR SOMETHIN'.

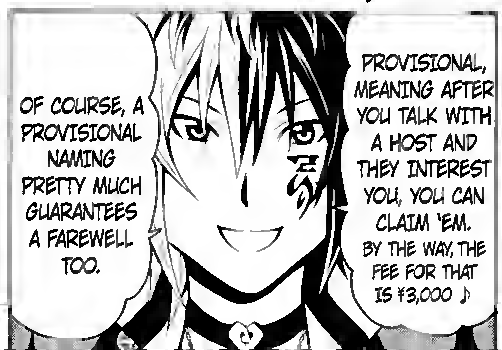

SO FAR, IT'S BEEN REALLY ROUGH.
HOW YOU LIKIN' FIRST-TIMERS?
AHEM!
HEY! NICE TA SEE YA, KOBAYASHI!
STEP!
EXCUSE ME! MAY I BE OF SOME ASSISTANCE?
GOOD EVENING, KOBAYASHI-SAN.

I'D LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THAT SECTION B, TABLE FOUR...
BA-
-BAM
HAS JUST PROVISIONALLY NAMED ME, JIN ZANBAMISAKI, AS HER HOST!
HUH?!

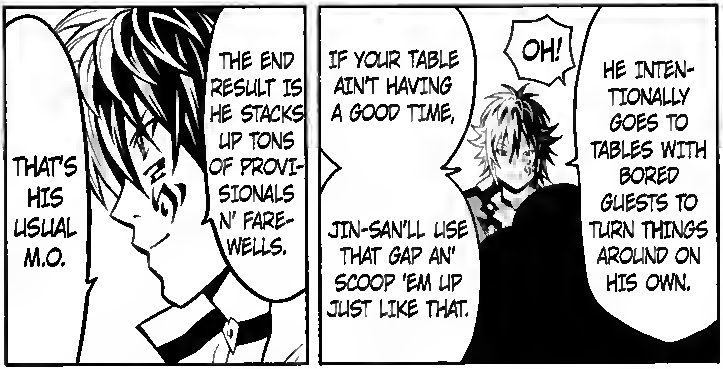

CHATTER
YEP.
MUR-MUR
WHAT?! PROVISIONALLY? SO LIKE I NAMED SAYAKA-CHAN AT THE CABARET CLUB?!

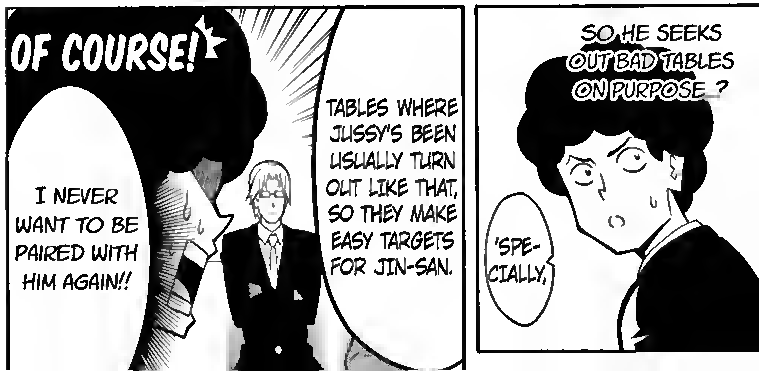

CHEER
THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

NO... NO WAY!
BUT...


OF COURSE, A PROVISIONAL NAMING PRETTY MUCH GUARANTEES A FAREWELL TOO.
PROVISIONAL, MEANING AFTER YOU TALK WITH A HOST AND THEY INTEREST YOU, YOU CAN CLAIM 'EM. BY THE WAY, THE FEE FOR THAT IS ¥3,000 ♪

BUT HE'S ONLY BEEN AT THE TABLE FOR FIVE MINUTES!
SHE WAS IN A PRETTY BAD MOOD, TOO!


OH!
HE INTENTIONALLY GOES TO TABLES WITH BORED GUESTS TO TURN THINGS AROUND ON HIS OWN.
IF YOUR TABLE AIN'T HAVING A GOOD TIME,
JIN-SAN'LL USE THAT GAP AN' SCOOP 'EM UP JUST LIKE THAT.
THE END RESULT IS HE STACKS UP TONS OF PROVISIONALS N' FAREWELLS.
THAT'S HIS USUAL M.O.


SO HE SEEKS OUT BAD TABLES ON PURPOSE?
'SPECIALLY,
TABLES WHERE JUSSY'S BEEN USUALLY TURN OUT LIKE THAT, SO THEY MAKE EASY TARGETS FOR JIN-SAN.
OF COURSE!
I NEVER WANT TO BE PAIRED WITH HIM AGAIN!!

ANY-WAY,
TO CHOOSE BAD TABLES LIKE THAT...
PAINS ME TA SAY IT,
BUT JIN-SAN IS A PRETTY GREAT HOST.
THAT AIN'T SOMETHIN' YOU CAN DO UNLESS YOU'RE CONFIDENT IN YOUR SKILL.
JUST FOR SHOW!
HE ISN'T NO. 1
IT'S BEEN ABOUT 2 HOURS SINCE OPEN, SO FIRST-TIMERS ON THE DRINK SPECIAL WILL BE LEAVING SOON.
CHATTER
CLAMOR
NOW THEN... 'S ABOUT THAT TIME, KOBAYASHI.
HUH?

IT'S TIME FOR THEM
OH!!
TO CHOOSE THEIR FARE-WELLS.

PLEASE!
BUT PLEASE, PICK ME!!
TO BE CONTINUED IN 36TH NIGHT: THE OUTCOME OF THE FAREWELLS

FAREWELLS!
I... I DON'T CARE WHO...
TURN
TURN